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## **FRA Education Foundation Announces New Scholarship Coordinator**

The FRA Education Foundation announces the appointment of Marilyn B. Smith as its new scholarship coordinator. She is responsible for the Foundation's annual scholarship program and her duties will include screening applications, verifying eligibility and overseeing the selection process of scholarship recipients.

Smith was selected based on her experience in education and as an active volunteer in the military community. She holds a bachelors degree in elementary education and served as the Ombudsman-At-Large for the Coast Guard Reserve Force for seven years. Additional experience includes membership on the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Board of Control and associated work with the organization's Mutual Assistance Committee, as well as her involvement with the Military Child Education Coalition and chairing of the National Military Family Association's Youth Initiatives Advisory Board.

"I have long admired FRA's advocacy for those who serve and have served in the Sea Services and am deeply honored to be part of the FRA family as the newly appointed Education Foundation Scholarship Coordinator," said Smith. "The Foundation's scholarship program's support of the educational goals and aspirations of service members and their families is an incredible way to invest in their futures while honoring their dedication and service to our country."

The FRA Education Foundation was established in 2009 to support the Fleet Reserve Association's (FRA's) growing scholarship program. Last year the Foundation awarded 30 scholarships totaling \$124,000, with individual academic awards of up to \$5,000. The deadline to apply for FRA Education Foundation scholarships is April 15, 2012, and the Foundation's board of directors encourages all eligible candidates to apply now.

Applicants must be affiliated with the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, either through their own service or that of a spouse, parent or grandparent. FRA Education Foundations scholarships are funded through private donations, established trusts and corporate sponsorships, and recipients are selected based on financial need, academic standing, character and leadership qualities. Applications are available online at [www.fra.org/foundation](http://www.fra.org/foundation).

### **The FRA Education Foundation**

The FRA Education Foundation provides academic scholarships to deserving students based on financial need, academic standing, and demonstrated leadership qualities. The Foundation partners with military and education professionals to promote life-long learning opportunities that help scholars reach their educational, professional and personal goals. To learn more, visit [www.fra.org/foundation](http://www.fra.org/foundation) or call 703-683-1400.